

CLAIMS

We claim:

1. A battery pack comprising:  
a housing;  
first and second cells disposed in the housing, the first cell having a radius and a periphery; and  
a metal strap electrically connecting the first and second cells, the strap having an end disposed over the first cell and a portion of the periphery, wherein distance between the strap end and the overlapped portion of the periphery is greater than the radius of the first cell.
2. The battery pack of Claim 1, wherein the strap comprises two contact protrusions contacting the first cell.
3. The battery pack of Claim 1, wherein the first and second cells have a nickel metal-hydride or nickel cadmium chemistry.
4. The battery pack of Claim 1, wherein at least one of the first and second cells is supported by a plate.
5. The battery pack of Claim 1, further comprising a terminal disposed on the housing, the terminal being electrically connected to at least one of the first and second cells.
6. A cordless system comprising:  
a power tool;  
a battery pack electrically connected to the power tool; the battery pack comprising:  
a housing;

first and second cells disposed in the housing, the first cell having a radius and a periphery; and

a metal strap electrically connecting the first and second cells, the strap having an end disposed over the first cell and a portion of the periphery, wherein distance between the strap end and the overlapped portion of the periphery is greater than the radius of the first cell.

7. The cordless system of Claim 6, wherein the strap comprises two contact protrusions contacting the first cell.

8. The cordless system of Claim 6, wherein the first and second cells have a nickel metal-hydride or nickel cadmium chemistry.

9. The cordless system of Claim 6, wherein at least one of the first and second cells is supported by a plate.

10. The cordless system of Claim 6, further comprising a terminal disposed on the housing, the terminal being electrically connected to at least one of the first and second cells.

11. A method for manufacturing a battery pack comprising the steps of:

providing a housing and two cells, at least one cell having a weld area;

welding a strap between the two cells; and

disposing the cells in the housing,

wherein the strap is welded by disposing a first electrode on the strap and a second electrode on the at least one cell outside of the weld area, and providing a current between the first and second electrodes.

12. The method of Claim 11, wherein the second electrode contacts a side of the at least one cell.

13. The method of Claim 11, wherein the second electrode contacts a periphery of the at least one cell.